

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

C. (Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
Y	KRONE, JR et al. BIA/MS: Interfacing Biomolecular Interaction Analysis with Mass Spectrometry. Analytical Biochemistry, 1997, vol. 244, pages 124-132, page 125, 2nd column, lines 40-44; page 126, 2st column, lines 11-32.	4-5, 19-21 ----- 7, 23

A		14, 30
Y	Passey, RJ et al. A null mutation in the inflammation-associated S100 protein S100A8 causes early resorption of the mouse embryo. The Journal of Immunology, 1999, vol. 163, pages 2209-2216, page 2209, 1st column, line 11; page 2215, 1st column, lines 61-64.	
Y	USP 5,541,291 A (KEENE) 30 July 1996 (30.07.1996), column 9, lines 66-67; column 10, lines 1-9.	6, 22
A	USP 6,313,267 B1 (HITOMI et al) 06 November 2001 (06.11.2001), entire reference.	1-31
A	USP 6,225,047 B1 (HUTCHENS et al) 01 May 2001 (01.05.2001), entire reference.	1-31
A	USP 5,972,594 A (HEINE) 26 October 1999 (26.10.1999), entire reference.	1-31
A	USP 5,719,060 A (HUTCHENS et al) 17 February 1998 (17.02.1998), entire reference.	1-31
A	USP 5,516,702 A (SENYEI et al) 14 May 1996 (14.05.1996), entire reference.	1-31
A	HITOMI, J et al. A novel calcium-binding protein in amniotic fluid, CAAF1: its molecular cloning and tissue distribution. Journal of Cell Science, 1996, vol. 109, pages 805-815, entire reference.	1-31
A	HOFMANN, MA et al. RAGE mediates a novel proinflammatory axis: a central cell surface receptor for S100/Calgranulin polypeptides. Cell, 1999, vol. 97, pages 889-901, entire reference.	1-31
A	YANG, Z et al. Proinflammatory properties of the human S100 protein S100A12. Journal of Leukocyte Biology, June 2001, vol. 69, pages 986-994, entire reference.	1-31
A	VOGL, T et al. S100A12 is expressed exclusively by granulocytes and acts independently from MRP8 and MRP14. The Journal of Biological Chemistry. 1999, vol. 274, no. 36, pages 25291-25296, entire reference.	1-31

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

PCT/US03/36120

BOX II. OBSERVATIONS WHERE UNITY OF INVENTION IS LACKING

This application contains the following inventions or groups of inventions which are not so linked as to form a single general inventive concept under PCT Rule 13.1. In order for all inventions to be examined, the appropriate additional examination fees must be paid.

Group I, claim(s) 1-31, drawn to a diagnostic kit.

Group II, claim(s) 32-35, drawn to a method for qualifying the risk of preterm delivery.

Group III, claim(s) 36-44, drawn to a method for qualifying the risk of preterm delivery.

The inventions listed as Groups I-III do not relate to a single general inventive concept under PCT Rule 13.1 because, under PCT Rule 13.2, they lack the same or corresponding special technical features for the following reasons: Group I includes the special technical features of an adsorbent that binds with a biomarker and monitoring the binding, which are missing from Groups II-III, and there are no common features between Group I and Groups II-III. Group II includes the special technical feature of analyzing a sample of amniotic fluid, which is missing from Groups I and III, and there are no common features between Group II and Groups I and III. Group III includes the special technical feature of mass spectroscopic analysis, which is missing from Groups I-II, and there are no common features between Groups III and Groups I-II.